Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A <u>computer-implement compliance management</u> method <u>for</u> <u>estimating an extent to which a plurality of enterprise elements comply with applicable</u> <u>rules, the method</u> comprising:

    providing an enterprise knowledge-base containing information representative of enterprise elements;

    providing a rules knowledge-base containing information representative of <u>the</u> applicable rules;

    defining rule associations between the applicable rules and the enterprise elements; [[and]]

    assigning compliance scores to the rule associations, the compliance scores being indicative of an extent to which the enterprise elements comply with the applicable rules<u>; and</u>

    <u>providing, to a compliance officer, a tangible output representative of the extent</u>.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising graphically displaying the compliance scores.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein displaying the compliance scores comprises displaying a cardinality of rule associations having a selected range of compliance scores.

4. (Original) The method of claim **2**, wherein displaying the compliance scores comprises displaying a histogram chart of a cardinality of rule associations having each of a plurality of ranges of compliance scores.

5. (Original) The method of claim **1**, further comprising displaying a tree view of the enterprise knowledge-base.

6. (Original) The method of claim **5**, wherein displaying the tree view comprises displaying a compliance indicator in association with an enterprise element, the compliance indicator being indicative of a compliance score associated with the enterprise element.

7. (Original) The method of claim **1**, further comprising associating remediation policies with the rule associations.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim **1**, further comprising providing a graphical user interface for controlling [[the]] a citation process and [[the]] a evaluation process.

9. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium having encoded thereon software <u>for estimating an extent to which enterprise elements comply with applicable rules, the software</u> having instructions that, when executed by a computer, cause the computer to:

provide an enterprise knowledge-base containing information representative of <u>the</u> enterprise elements;

provide rules knowledge-base containing information representative of <u>the</u> applicable rules;

define rule associations between the applicable rules and the enterprise elements; and

assign compliance scores to the rule associations, the compliance scores being indicative of an extent to which the enterprise elements comply with the applicable rules.

10. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim **9**, wherein the software further comprises instructions for causing the computer to graphically display the compliance scores.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim **9**, wherein the software further comprises instructions for causing the computer to display a tree view of the enterprise knowledge-base.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim **9**, wherein the software further comprises instructions for causing the computer to associating remediation policies with the rule associations.

16. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim **9**, wherein the software further comprises instructions for causing the computer to providing a graphical user interface for controlling [[the]] a citation process and [[the]] a evaluation process.

17. (Currently Amended) A compliance-management system for estimating an extent to which a plurality of enterprise elements comply with applicable rules, the method comprising:

a data storage subsystem having encoded thereon

an enterprise knowledge-base containing information representative of enterprise elements, and

a rules knowledge-base containing information representative of applicable rules; and

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a processing subsystem in data communication with the data storage subsystem, the

processing subsystem being configured to execute

a citation process for defining rule associations between the applicable rules and

the enterprise elements; and

an evaluation process for assigning compliance scores to the rule associations, the

compliance scores being indicative of an extent to which the enterprise

elements comply with the applicable rules.

18. **(Original)** The system of claim **17**, wherein the processing subsystem is configured to

execute a compliance-display process for graphically displaying the compliance scores.

19. **(Cancelled)**

20. **(Original)** The system of claim **18**, wherein the compliance-display process is configured to

display a histogram chart of a cardinality of rule associations having each of a plurality of

ranges of compliance scores.

21. **(Original)** The system of claim **17**, wherein the processing subsystem is configured to

execute a tree-view process for providing a tree view of the enterprise knowledge-base.

22. **(Original)** The system of claim **21**, wherein the tree-view process is configured to display a

compliance indicator in association with an enterprise element, the compliance indicator

being indicative of a compliance score associated with the enterprise element.

23. **(Original)** The system of claim **17**, wherein the processing subsystem is configured to

execute a remediation process for associating remediation policies with the rule

associations.

24. (Currently Amended) The system of claim **17**, wherein the processing subsystem [[us]] is configured to execute a switchboard process for providing a graphical user interface for controlling the citation process and the evaluation process.